

### **REMARKS**

The above amendments to the above-captioned application along with the following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response to the Official Action dated October 18, 2004 and the telephone conversation with the Examiner on March 9, 2005, regarding amending the Title and filing a terminal disclaimer.

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to acknowledge the receipt of the priority document in next office action.

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to give due reconsideration to this application, to indicate the allowability of the claims, and to pass this case to issue.

#### **Status of the Claims**

Claims 1-15 are under consideration in this application.

#### **Additional Amendments**

The Title of the Invention is being amended to correct formal errors and/or to better disclose or describe the features of the present invention as claimed. Applicants hereby submit that no new matter is being introduced into the application through the submission of this response.

#### **Double Patenting Rejection**

Claims 1-15 were provisionally rejected under 35 USC § 101 – statutory type double patenting, as claiming the same invention as in the claims 10-19 and 29-33 (allowed) in the co-pending U.S. Pat. App. No. 10/416,709.

As the claims 10-19 and 29-33 (allowed) were cancelled from the co-pending Application No. 10/416,709 without prejudice or disclaimer via a supplemental response dated February 28, 2005, the rejection thus becomes moot.

In addition, a terminal disclaimer is filed herewith to obviate any potential obviousness type double patenting rejection.

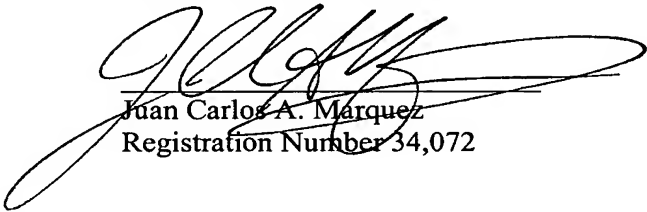
Conclusion

In view of all the above, clear and distinct differences as discussed exist between the present invention as now claimed and the prior art references upon which the rejections in the Office Action rely, Applicants respectfully contend that the prior art references cannot anticipate the present invention or render the present invention obvious. Rather, the present invention as a whole is distinguishable, and thereby allowable over the prior art.

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully solicited. Should there be any outstanding issues requiring discussion that would further the prosecution and allowance of the above-captioned application, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the address and telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Stanley P. Fisher  
Registration Number 24,344

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Juan Carlos A. Marquez  
Registration Number 34,072

**REED SMITH LLP**  
3110 Fairview Park Drive, Suite 1400  
Falls Church, Virginia 22042  
(703) 641-4200

**March 18, 2005**  
SPF/JCM/JT